

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) 25X1

REPORT NO.

TOP SECRET Soviet Troops in Grima

EVALUATION ☐ 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED Germany/Munich

DATE OF CONTENT 27 March to 4 April 1952

DATE OBTAINED _____ 25X1 DATE PREPARED 25 April 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1

REMARKS

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1. On 4 April 1952, the Strassburg Kaserne in Grima (N 52/E 40) on Leipzigerstrasse quartered 900 to 1,100 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. A former employee at the barracks installation stated that a tank regiment with three tank battalions was stationed there and that about 100 T-34/85 tanks were stationed in three motor vehicle garages and 20 AT guns of undetermined caliber in another garage. An acquaintance of source said that Majors Nikolai Ivanov and Ivan Aleksander Sokratov belonged to the tank unit in the Strassburg Kaserne. On 3 April, 12 canvas-covered tanks [redacted] stood in the barracks yard 25X1. About 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia were engaged in combat practice with small arms on the drill field north of the installation. About 250 troops organized into nine platoons of soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia were at rifle drill in the barracks yard on 31 March. About 200 troops in six platoons of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia marched to the drill field north of the installation on 29 March, led by a major and equipped with rifles. Vehicles [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] drove into the installation. *

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2. On 3 April, the Elsner Kaserne on Franz Mehringstrasse was occupied by an estimated 800 to 1,000 troops, most of them wore red-bordered black epaulets and some black-bordered blue epaulets. A former employee at the installation stated that two buildings of the installation quartered about 70 air force soldiers. On 23 March, about 80 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets fell in on the drill grounds near about 35 trucks. About 200 troops with red-bordered black epaulets fell in on the drill grounds on 31 March. On 1 April, 63 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, led by a captain, marched into the Elsner Kaserne from the training grounds north of Leipzigerstrasse, while about 23 soldiers, without epaulets or arms entered the installation from the officers' billets north of Leipzigerstrasse. They latter group were escorted by three soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets and carried submachine guns. About 100 soldiers organized into four platoons of soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets drilled in the barracks yard on 3 April. **

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CLASSIFICATION

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* Comment. The information on the Strassburg Kaserne in
 Grima confirms the report by another source according to
 which 74 tanks, mostly T-34s, were at the installation on
 2 April 1952. All the information
 available tends to indicate that the unit is the 1st Gds Tank
 Regt of the 8th Gds Mech Div which, however, is carried in
 Borna. According to a report of February 1952, by a third source,
 there were no signs in Borna indicating a change in the
 occupation there.
 in May 1950, a Gds Senior Lieutenant Ivanov (Iru),
 commanding officer of a reconnaissance company, gave instructions
 on the commitment of armored cars. It
 is possible that the Ivanov mentioned in the present report is
 identical with the abovementioned officer and now belongs to the
 unit in the Strassburg Kaserne, with the rank of captain. However,
 according to T/E, only one reconnaissance platoon is carried with
 a medium tank regiment.

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